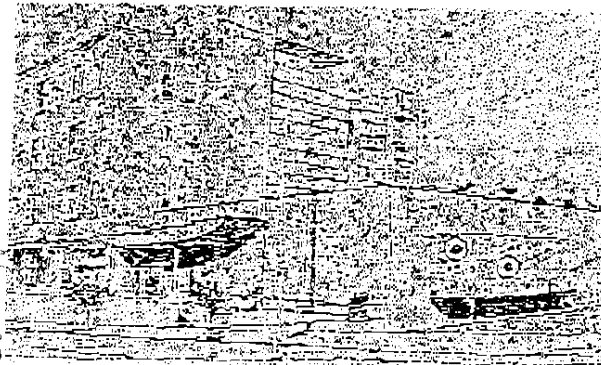


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FROM:

Rev. Mark Whitford

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7

MESSAGE:

(Mission: To economically empower impoverished communities)



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Honorable Michael Powell
Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20544

RE: CC Docket No. 01-338, Review of the Section 251 Unbundling Obligations of Incumbent Local Exchange Carriers.

Dear Chairman Powell:

The Internet has become an increasingly important tool for businesses of all **sizes**, and access to **advanced** telecommunications **services** are **now** in demand more than ever before. It is **important**, therefore, that companies providing these services all compete on a level playing field. they must all be held accountable to **equal** regulations.

Providers of telecommunications services, **whether over** cable or phone lines, must face the same regulations; **otherwise**, one company has an **unfair** and distinct **advantage over** the other company, creating a false perception of competition. **And only** fair and true competition will bring new **technologies** at the most competitive prices to consumers throughout California.

Thr FCC needs to take a forward-looking approach and create a regulatory framework for the telecommunications process that will **allow** for long-term and sustainable competition...not a **short-term**, fleeting fix. Can our nation's economy handle the crush of another technology sector? We hope we don't **have** to find out.

Sincerely,

Rev. Mark Whitlock
Executive Director

CC:
Commissioner Abernathy
Commissioner Adelstein
Commissioner Martin
Commissioner Copps

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FAME ASSISTANCE CORPORATION

AFFILIATE OF FIRST AME CHURCH OF LOS ANGELES